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Virtual Field Trip Reflection

After going through the Louvre Museum in France online, I finally saw how useful virtual field trips can be. Sure nothing beats going to the actual place but if the school district can't afford it then the virtual trips are the next best thing. I went to the Louvre back in 2005 so going through it virtually brought that experience right back to me. I was able to see exhibits and pieces that I hadn't seen since then. The fact that you can get a panoramic view of the exhibits really makes it come to life. You can literally walk through the exhibits and see everything; and the best part is... There are no crowds!!! Instead of just looking at famous works of arts in a text book or a photograph of it, you can see it where it exists and the closest thing to actually seeing it in real life. I think this can be beneficial in a classroom not only for things like museums or places of interest, but also for things like geography and history. Even with things like Google Earth, we can see places like the battle fields of Gettysburg, so what is usually presented as some far off field that is kind of abstract, we can now show the students what it looks like and the actual environment of it, even if we can't bring them there.